

## First AUS Symposium on Islamic Banking and Finance

February 20-21, 2013

### Day One: Wednesday, February 20, 2013

**8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Registration and Breakfast**

Quran Recitation

**9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Opening Session**  
Speech by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammad Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates, Ruler of Sharjah and President of AUS (tentative)  
Speech by Dr. Peter Heath, AUS Chancellor

**10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Plenary Session I**  
The Challenges Faced by Islamic Finance in the Aftermath of the Recent Economic Crisis: Practitioners' Perspectives

Moderator: Dr. Thomas Hochstettler, AUS Provost

Panelists:

- Mr. Parvaiz Siddiq, CEO, Noor Takaful, UAE
- Mr. Rushdi Siddiqui, Global Head of Islamic Finance and OIC Countries, Thomson Reuters, USA
- Shaikh Muddassir Siddiqui, President/CEO, ShariahPath Consultants, USA
- Mr. Sohail Zubairi, CEO, Dar Al Sharia Legal and Financial Consultancy LLC, UAE
- Mr. Zakariya Othman, Head, Islamic Ratings, RAM Rating Services Berhad, Malaysia

**11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Coffee Break**

**11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Plenary Session II**  
The Challenges Faced by Islamic Finance in the Aftermath of the Recent Economic Crisis: Academics' Perspectives

Moderator: Dr. Jahangir Sultan, Bentley University, USA

Panelists:

- Dr. Nazim Ali, Director, The Islamic Finance Project, Harvard University, USA
- Dr. Volker Nienhaus, Member of the Governing Council, International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance, Malaysia
- Dr. Kabir Hassan, Professor of Finance, University of New Orleans, USA
- Dr. Mohamed Ariff, Professor of Finance, Bond University, Australia

**12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Duhr Prayer and Lunch**

**2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Keynote Speech**  
Mr. Rushdi Siddiqui, Global Head of Islamic Finance and OIC Countries, Thomson Reuters

### Academic Sessions

**2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Session 1: Investment Decisions**

Session Chair: **Dr. Osamah AlKhazali, American University of Sharjah**

- Do Debt Markets Price Sukuk and Conventional Bonds Differently? **Dr. Mohamed Ariff, Bond University**
- Performance of Values-Driven and Profit-Seeking Investment Strategies, **Dr. Jahangir Sultan, Bentley University**
- Risk Aversion and Islamic Finance: An Experimental Approach, **Dr. Suzanna El-Massah, Zayed University & Cairo University**

**4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Asr Prayer and Coffee Break**

**4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Session 2: Performance Studies**

Session Chair: **Dr. Ashraf Khallaf, American University of Sharjah**

- The Islamic Risk Factor in Mutual Funds Performance: An Empirical Study in Saudi Arabia, **Dr. Kabir Hassan, University of New Orleans**
- Application of EM Z-score on Listed Islamic Banks in Emerging Countries, **Mr. Vijaya Kumar, Middlesex University**
- Performance of Islamic and Conventional Banks Before, During, and After the Global Financial Crisis, **Dr. Dennis Olson, Thompson Rivers University**

**6:30 p.m. Tour of The Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization  
Gala Dinner**

## Day Two – Thursday, February 21, 2013

**8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Registration and Breakfast**

**9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Session 3: The Practice of Islamic Finance**

Session Chair: **Dr. Zaher Zantout, American University of Sharjah**

- Perceptions Surrounding the Contemporary Practice of Islamic Finance, **Dr. Nazim Ali, Harvard University**
- A Slippery Slope: The Legal Enforceability of Islamic Finance, **Dr. Umar Oseni, International Islamic University**
- Legal, Regulatory, and Structural Issues in Islamic Project Financing, **Mr. Wijdan Tariq Hamad bin Khalifa University**

**11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Coffee Break**

**11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Session 4: Corporate Governance & Liquidity Management**

Session Chair: **Dr. Ismail Genc, American University of Sharjah**

- Corporate Governance of Islamic Banks: Toward an Understanding of Sharia Considerations, **Mr. Karim Ginena, Hamad bin Khalifa University**
- Corporate Governance and Bank Operating Performance in Islamic and Conventional Banks: Evidence from GCC, **Dr. Ashraf Khallaf, American University of Sharjah**
- Time-Weighted Debt Units, **Dr. Ahmed Al-Ajlouni, Qassim University**

**12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Duhr Prayer and Lunch**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Session 5: Islamic Marketing**

Session Chair: **Dr. Anis Samet, American University of Sharjah**

- Sharia-Compliant Hotels: Exploring the Prospects in Egypt, **Dr. Hamed Shamma, American University in Cairo**
- Islamic Banks in Lebanon: who are their Clients, and what are their Concerns? **Mrs. Rima Bizri, Rafik Hariri University**
- Towards an Islamic Marketing and Advertising Paradigm, **Dr. Mohammed Ibahrine, American University of Sharjah**

**5:30 p.m. Trip to Dubai Mall**